

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant: Durham Russell Maples

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, District of Columbia 20231

Sir/Madam:

Included is a completed Form PTO-1449 and copies of the pertinent parts of the references cited thereon. Following are comments on all the references and their relevance to the invention claimed.

Inoue et al. is a method for removing iron content in petroleum series mineral therefrom. This invention does not alter the molecular structure to increase or decrease the magnetic attraction of any substance, instead relies on the inherent characteristic of the magnetic attraction of the iron. **Savisalo et al.** is a method and a device for separating plastic particles from suspensions. This method does not alter the molecular structure of any substance.

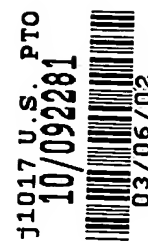
Reinger is a process and apparatus for the recovery of cellulose fibers from plastic fibers. This invention does not alter the molecular structure of a substance to change the specific gravity of the substance. If Reinger and Savisalo were an efficient, effective means of removing plastic particles and cellulose, respectively, there would be no need for manual separation in the recycling of paper and plastic.

Jody et al. is a method for the separation of high impact polystyrene(HIPS) and acrylonitrile butadiene styrene(ABS) plastics. The method does not alter the molecular structure of the plastics. The method uses air bubbles on plastics with specific surface tension range to have the air bubbles adhere to the plastic to act as "buoys" to float the HIPS to the top on specific gravity flotation. No molecular structure is altered.

Stahl et al. is a method of separating a mixture of plastics comprising at least three components using electrostatic techniques. This method does not alter the molecular structure of any substance.

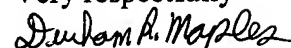
Kreisler is a method for recovering and separating metals from waste streams. This method uses an oxidizing agent not to alter the molecular structure but instead to degrade or decompose organic compounds. The invention claimed requires that the molecular structure be altered **but not destroyed**.

Zimmerman is a reference that shows a variety of organic chemical reactions that alter the molecular structure of substances without destroying the substance. None of the organic chemical reactions mentioned are combined with a mechanical method of separation. The reactions shown in the reference are not presented to alter a physical characteristic for the purpose of separation but to synthesize to different organic compounds that will be used for some other purpose.



None of the referenced mechanical methods of separation are combined with an organic chemical reaction and none is suggested. None of the references use an organic chemical reaction prior to separation by a mechanical method of separation.

Very respectfully



Durham R. Maples

Applicant Pro Se

Durham R. Maples
1507 Park Circle
Camden, S.C. 29020